

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Rainer KUTH

Serial No. (unknown)

Filed herewith

METHOD FOR HANDLING AN  
INFORMATION ITEM

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee, please amend  
the above-identified application as follows:

Replace the Abstract as originally filed with the  
attached new Abstract.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claim 4 as follows:

--4. (amended) The method as claimed in claim 2, in  
which the handling instruction comprises changing the informa-  
tion item (30), retaining the information item (20) or  
deleting the information item (40).

--5. (amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, in  
which the monitoring period can be predetermined.

--6. (amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, in  
which the monitoring period takes place automatically.

--7. (amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, in  
which the communications network (5) is the Internet.

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--8. (amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, in which the ident code (15) is transmitted to the information provider by e-mail.

--9. (amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, in which the ident code (15) is transmitted, together with the handling instruction (20, 30, 40) relating to the information item, to the service provider by e-mail.

--10. (amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, in which the information item (10) made available has at least the last update date of the information (10).--

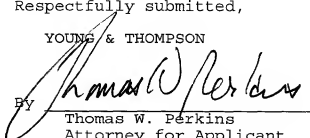
R E M A R K S

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the Abstract and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE".

Respectfully submitted,

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for handling an information item (10) which originates from an information provider, is made available by a service provider and can be called via a communications network (5). The service provider allocates to the information provider an ident code (15) which identifies the information item (10). If the information provider does not sign on at the service provider within a specific time period by transmitting the ident code (15), preferably together with a handling instruction (20, 30, 40) relating to the information item (10), the service provider deletes the information item (10).

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

~~200022926~~

~~Abstract~~

~~Method for handling an information item.~~

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

~~The invention relates to a~~ A method for handling an information item (10) which originates from an information provider, is made available by a service provider and can be called via a communications network (5). The service provider allocates to the information provider an ident code (15) which identifies the information item (10). If the information provider does not sign on at the service provider within a specific time period by transmitting the ident code (15), preferably together with a handling instruction (20, 30, 40) relating to the information item (10), the service provider deletes the information item (10).

~~Fig. 1~~

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

4. The method as claimed in claim 2 ~~or 3~~, in which the handling instruction comprises changing the information item (30), retaining the information item (20) or deleting the information item (40).

5. The method as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 4~~  
claim 1, in which the monitoring period can be predetermined.

6. The method as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 5~~  
claim 1, in which the monitoring period takes place automatically.

7. The method as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 6~~  
claim 1, in which the communications network (5) is the Internet.

8. The method as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 7~~  
claim 1, in which the ident code (15) is transmitted to the information provider by e-mail.

9. The method as claimed in ~~one of claims 2 to 8~~  
claim 1, in which the ident code (15) is transmitted, together with the handling instruction (20, 30, 40) relating to the information item, to the service provider by e-mail.

10. The method as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 9~~  
claim 1, in which the information item (10) made available has at least the last update date of the information (10).--

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